

SENATE No. 1408

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Harriette L. Chandler

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act providing for a study of the Commonwealth's job classification system by the Human Resources Division.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Harriette L. Chandler	First Worcester
Alice K. Wolf	25th Middlesex
John W. Scibak	2nd Hampshire
Martha M. Walz	8th Suffolk
Steven J. D'Amico	4th Bristol

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. S02386 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A STUDY OF THE COMMONWEALTH'S JOB CLASSIFICATION
SYSTEM BY THE HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority
of the same, as follows:*

1 **SECTION 1.** The general court finds and declares that:

2 (a) equitable compensation is a significant problem for state employees of the commonwealth;

3 (b) most job specifications for state employees of the commonwealth have not been updated in
4 over twenty years;

5 (c) the starting point for equitable compensation is through a statewide classification plan;

6 (d) the commonwealth is experiencing an exodus of educated young adults and skilled workers
7 and to be competitive the commonwealth must have current job descriptions which are updated
8 in order to recruit, develop, promote and retain new workers;

9 (e) the commonwealth should ensure that state employees are paid equitably through fair,
10 impartial, and up-to-date job specifications;

(f) the commonwealth should actively seek to provide equitable, impartial, just, and comparable worth for all people that it employs;

(g) equitable compensation has a significant impact on the financial welfare for individuals, families, and retirees; and

(h) equitable compensation can significantly improve the quality of life for many citizens of Massachusetts.

SECTION 2. Definitions

“Equitable compensation” means equal compensation for jobs with comparable skill, effort, responsibility, and working conditions.

“Job classification” means a system designed to create an arrangement of different types of employment based on such factors as skill, responsibility or experience, time and effort.

“Job class” means a group of positions sufficiently similar in respect to duties and responsibilities that the same descriptive title may be used to designate all positions allocated to the class, the same general entrance qualifications may be required of incumbents of positions in the class, the same general tests of fitness may be used to choose qualified employees and the same schedule of pay may be made to apply under the same or substantially the same employment conditions.

“Job specification” means the official description of the characteristic duties, responsibilities and qualifications of a job class.

“The council” means the state workforce advisory council.

31 “The division” means the human resources division.

32 **SECTION 3.** The human resources division shall conduct a job analysis study of
33 positions of state employees of the executive branch of the commonwealth. The study shall be
34 conducted to update the current job classification system, including but not limited to class titles,
35 job specifications, organizational relationships, and job qualifications. As part of this study, the
36 human resources division shall insure that the job classification system is free of gender and
37 racial bias. The human resources division shall also review the effect of the job classification
38 system on employee pension and benefits, and on the recruitment and retention of employees
39 within the commonwealth.

40 **SECTION 4.** Said study relative to job classification shall be administered by the
41 division subject to appropriation. For the cost associated with the study, \$1,298,000 shall be
42 appropriated to the human resources division in FY10, \$615,000 shall be appropriated to the
43 human resources division in FY11, and \$615,000 shall be appropriated to the human resources
44 division in FY12. The amount appropriated in this item shall include, but not be limited to, the
45 costs of additional personnel, consultants, data collection software, and any other related costs of
46 the study.

47 **SECTION 5.** The results of the study shall be reported on or before June 1, 2012 and in
48 the interim, annual reports shall be submitted. The chief human resources officer of the human
49 resources division shall submit the results of this study to the council, the chairs of the joint
50 committee on state administration and regulatory oversight, the chairs of the joint committee on
51 labor and workforce development, the senate committee on ways and means, and the house
52 committee on ways and means.